

so it has three heroes, a heroine, an eccentric philanthropist and a score of supernumeraries of too little importance, so far as this incident is concerned, to be mentioned by name. The heroes are Mr. Swallow, Mr. Spilkington and Mr. Spiker; the heroine is, or was, Miss Honeygarde; the eccentric philanthropist is Mr. Wilson. So much for the introduction; now for the story:

Swallow, Spilkington and Spiker work for Mr. Wilson. On the 4th day of January last the three young men held an important interview with their employer.

"What do you want?" said Wilson to Swallow.

"A raise," said Swallow.

"And you?" to Spilkington.

"A raise." "And you?" to Spiker.

"A raise."

"Can't have it," said Wilson. "You get \$25 a week now."

"I know that," said Swallow, "but that ain't enough. We are worth more than that. We want \$30."

"Too much," said Wilson. "Still, I do not wish to discourage you. You are worthy young men, and I like you. I do not wish to leave you without hope. I will increase your salary on one condition. If you will get married I will pay you \$30 a week."

Swallow, Spilkington and Spiker turned pale. "Married?" they said. "This is very

sudden. We must have time to think." They retired into an adjoining room and thought. After due deliberation

they reported their decision. "Sir," said they, "we refuse to accept presperity on such onerous terms. Twenty-five dollars a week, according to our calculation, will go further for one than \$30 for two. We prefer positive to potential evils. We will not get married."

Then Swallow, Spilkington and Spiker went back to their desks and continued to work for \$25 a week, always bearing in mind the opportunity for advancement should they care to purchase promotion at such a cost.

Swallow, Spilkington and Spiker are good friends. Usually they lunch together. Last Monday that amicable arrangement would have been satisfactory to Swallow and Spilkington, but when they got ready to leave the office and looked around for Spiker they found that he had already gone. They saw him at the restaurant but they did not join him. Spiker was not alone. Miss Honeygarde sat opposite. Miss Honeygarde beamed upon Spiker and Spiker beamed upon her. They were happy. Swallow and Spilkington were not happy; they were envious.

"Ungrateful dog," said Swallow, "So that's why he left us? He has treated us most shabby. But we'll get even. We'll have revenge." He called the waitress.

"Delia," he said, "do you see our friend over there? Well, he has deserted us. He's married."

"Married?" cried Della. "Sure?" "Sure," said Swallow. "Married last night. My friend and I were at

the wedding. Weren't we, Dick?" "Uh-huh," said Spilkington. "You don't say,' said Delia. "Was



The heroes are Mr. Swallow, Spilkington and Mr. Spiker.

it a church wedding? I hope so. I do love church weddings. They are so swell and so awfully solemn." "No," said Swallow, "this was not a

church wedding. It was just a home-

This story has several morals. Al- | affair, but it was swell enough and solemn enough just the same. Go and tell the rest of the girls the old chap is married. It'll make him feel good

for you to take some notice of him." Delia told the other girls, the other girls told the proprietor, the proprietor told the patrons and the patrons told each other. It was an exciting time. Everybody looked, everybody talked. "See the bride and bridegroom,"

they said. "Don't they look nice?" But Spiker and Miss Honeygarde did not look nice. They were too red for that. They heard, they saw, they blushed, they felt very uncomfortable. Also, they looked very silly; nevertheless, they talked earnestly. Swallow and Spilkington tried to make out what they said, but they could hear nothing. However, they found out all about that the next day. Early Tuesday Spiker engaged Mr. Wilson in an animated conversation.

"Sir," said he, "I want my \$30 week."

"Married?" asked Wilson. "Yes, sir."

"When?" "Yesterday."

"Good," said Wilson, "I am glad. 1



Miss Honey And the heroine was

garde. am an advocate of domestic tranquility. I like a man who has home ties. I shall do well by you. You deserve more than \$30 a week. I will promote you. You shall have \$40 a week, with the prospect of \$50 the first of next year."

Swallow and Spilkington almost fainted. When they came to Swallow asked: "Say, Spike, were you married at

lunch time, yesterday?" "No," said Spiker. "Hadn't thought

of it then. Little girl just came in to spend the day. You put the notion into our heads. Congratulations, you know, and gossip and dishes of rice and wedding cake. Seemed like the real thing. Little girl awfully nice. Known her long time. Like each other tremendously. 'Why not?' says I. Why not?' says she. 'Let's,' says I. 'Let's,' says she. So we did. All due to you. Thanks awfully."

"Good Lord!" said Swallow. "Good Lord!" said Spilkington.

Swallow addressed Mr. Wilson timidly. "Sir," said he, "are there any more jobs of the same kind where this came from?"

"No," said Wilson, "no more promotions in sight. Even if you two fellows should get married now, you'd have to peg along on the \$25 basis."

"Forty dollars, you know," mused Spiker, maliciously, "and the little girl's old man was so delighted he planked down \$1,000 cash as a wedding present."

"Good Lord," said Swallow and Spilkington again.—New York Press.

Would Name the Dog Care. The family had added a bull terrier to its stock of pets. The first day after his arrival the new member ended the carcer of a pet cat. He was forgiven, however, and that night there was a discussion over a name for deg. Six-year-old Pauline listened to several suggestions, and then said, gravely, "I'd call him Care, I think, You know grandma says, 'Care killed a cat."

Fastest Time on Bicycle. The fastest that has been done on a bicycle is the record of 66 feet a

ONE CAUSE FOR DRINK HABIT.

Expert Traces Intemperance to Improper Feeding.

"There is a cause for the drink habwhich even good Christian parents do not understand," says a writer in What to Eat. "They cannot realize why their children, with beautiful surroundings and daily Christian influences, sometimes go far astray, becoming sadly immoral, and in many instances drunkards. When they, as well as many of the physicians, shall have exhausted all other efforts to locate the cause of the trouble, let them ook to the stomach-the poor, abused stomach-and they will, in all probability, find the source of the evil. From infancy many of the little ones are given food beyond the capacity of their digestive organs. As soon as one is peculiarly attractive and suits several teeth have appeared, meats young girls to a nicety, being made are frequently a part of the bill of fare. These, as well as the other articles of food, are necessarily swallowed without proper mastication. Pepper, mustard, Worcestershire sauce, vinegar and highly seasoned salads also find their way into these young and tender stomachs until, as he result of such a diet, fermentation sets in and a little distillery is created in these youthful temples. Under such conditions a child becomes irritable, quick tempered, untruthful, and it would be surprising if it grew up to noble manhood."

PREPARE FOR LONG FASTS.

Nature Takes Good Care of Animals That Hibernate.

A large number of species of animals undergo more or less prolonged and continuous fasts during the period of their winter or summer sleep. During such slumbers the more active functions of the body are to a great extent suspended, while those that are carried on act slowly and entail comparatively little waste of tissue and energy. Moreover, before the period of the winter torpor or hibernation takes place, many animals, such as bears, accumulate large stores of fat on various parts of the body, which suffice to supply all the waste entailed by the respiratory function during the period in question. Fat is also accumulated by the mouse-lemurs of Madagascar previous to the summer sleep, or aestivation, and is used up in a similar manner, their summer sleeps being undertaken for the purpose of avoiding the season of great heat and drought, when food is difficult or impossible to procure.

"Ah Sin, Esquire."

By way of corroborating my view that the title "Esquire" is utterly devoid of meaning, one of my readers mentions that in Singapore, where he has resided for eleven years, it is not only universally bestowed on every white man, but also upon the wealthier Chinese and Asiatics. "Ah Sin, Esq.," looks and sounds well. It will surely lend an additional attracion to life in a Rand mine or comcound when the Celestial knows that the wealth he amasses out of his "average minimum" wage will entitle him to such a designation. He could not get a peacock's feather or a yellow cket at home for anything like the price.- London Truth.

Grouce Has Many Defenses.

The grouse has a hundred tricks t. lefense. It will lie still until the hunter is within a yard of it, then soar like a woodcock; again, it will rise forty yards away, and the sound of its wings is his only notice of its presence. It will cower upon a branch under which he passes, and his cap will not be more than a foot below it as he goes, and though it has seen him approaching it will remain quiescent in fear until his back is turned. It will rush then, and when he has slewed himself hurriedly around he will catch only a glimpse of a brown, broad wing far away.

One of Corea's Superstitions.

Near the city of Seoul, the capital of Corea, is a hill called Pouk Han, which was formerly covered with trees. The legend runs that so long as a tree remained on the hill so long will Corea maintain its independence, and therefore no one is allowed to cut or touch a tree. But the natural consequence of this want of forestry has been that the trees have gradually died off, until now only one is left. On this one tree it is believed that the fate of the country rests, and when it goes Corea as an independent state will go with it.

My Qusen.

I did not know I had a friend So near, by chance to save; It seemed my fortune here must ena, Just plundered by a knave.

Her back was turned. I knew her not In my perplexity, Yet she was there to spoil the plot Of my arch enemy.

And when I saw her regal face Appear upon the scene. Victorious champion of my case. I hailed her as my queen.

There may be those of higher rank.
Of greater worth than she,
But now the queen of trumps I thankShe took the trick for me.

-New Yorker.

Counted His Grandmother.

When some surprise was expressed that a small boy should prefer to go for a summer outing to the sleepy village where his mother lived as a little girl, instead of to the seashore with its "attractions," the little fellow replied: "I count my grandmother." In the plans of many families at this season of the year "counting the grandmother" plays an important part, Her welcome arms form for the child military phrase.-Youth's Companion, cioth are in accordance with good yards in any width for bands.



Misses' Seven-Gored Kilted Skirt. Skirts that are made flat over the

hips and are so plaited as to mean generous fullness below that point increase in favor week by week, and are shown in many variations. This of plain cut blas and stitched with corticelli silk. The plaits are turned backward and are so arranged as to conceal all seams, while the many gores do away with unnecessary bulk. All suiting and skirting materials are appropriate.

The skirt consists of seven gores and is closed invisibly at the center back. The plaits are laid on indicated lines and are pressed flat for their entire length, but stitched for a portion only.

The quantity of material required for the medium size (14 years) is 6% yards 21 or 27 inches wide, or 3% yards 44 inches wide.

Whole Cucumber Pickles. Lay a hundred cucumbers in cold water for an hour. Drain, put into a



stone crock and cover with cold brine that is strong enough to bear up an egg. Set aside for three days, drain off the brine, and wipe the pickles dry. Wash out the crock, put in the cucumbers, cover with cold water and leave for twenty-four hours. Boil in vinegar two minced onions, twenty cloves, an ounce each of mustard and celery seed and a few blades of mace. Add a cup of sugar and fill the crock with this boiling mixture. Stir the cucumbers well, then cover closely and leave for a week. At the end of that time drain off the vinegar, boil it up again and again pour it over the pickles. Do not use for several months.

Skirts Long and Full.

The newest skirts, in spite of all the rephecies to the contrary, are very long and full, and, when puffings and gagings are not employed, there are many small frills, much tucked and ruched, or inserted with lace. There is a general air of droopiness about all the smart toilettes of the moment, straight upward in his front, towering and one really cannot deny their graceful elegance. A lovely little ilnen gown seen the other day-it had been made in Paris for one of the smartest Parisiennes renowned for her perfect taste in dress-had the skirt cut very long, and decorated with four flounces of embroidery in graduating widths separated by nun's plaits. The plaited bodice had a little fichu fastened in front of either shoulder by a rosette of black velours mousseline, and the deep pointed belt was also of the velours mousseline.

Skirt Styles.

Styles are, in the main, very much what designers have been leading up to for a year or more. Skirts, instead or molding the form, spring light away from the waist line, though many still bear witness to the very natural fear of looking bunchy and thick, which haunts most women no longer on the right side of twenty-five, by being set into cordings and gaugings. The plisse skirt and the boxplaited variety are both admirable, and likely to endure.

The short skirt has found its right place strictly as a walking skirt, for early morning wear, for shopping, or for country and sports; the most usual length is that which just touches the ground all around. Trains are reserved for evening gowns and ceremonlous toilets.

Shirt Waists Here to Stay.

"Shirt waists are too comfortable to ever go out of fashion," said a prominent modiste recently. "They are growing more dressy every season, and yet I doubt, too, if the real plain tailor-made shirt waist, worn with a white collar and black tic or a neat stock, will ever be superseded for certam occasions by the dressier affairs. I make up quantities of the white handkerchief linen waists, hand-embroidered, right through the summer and winter. They launder well, are extremely becoming, and cool."

French Finery.

Linen gowns, it should be explained, are the chie thing for morning wear at all the smart French holiday places just now, and when they are not possible, on a dull or rainy day, smart little coats and skirts of

taste. But muslin dresses are a thing apart; they are for afternoon and garden party and semi-evening wear, dainty robes painted or printed with tiny pompadour designs of flowers, and commingled with cobwebby laces threaded with the very narrowest of velvet bebe ribbons that look as though fairy fingers alone had fashloned them. Roses, by the way, are the most modish of all flowers and the most admired for wear this season, and apropos of matters millinerial, all the newest hats have decidedly high

Artistic Fruit Centerpieces.

The English taste for fruit centerpieces for the dinner table has been stimulated by the beautiful designs in electroliers which goldsmiths and silversmiths are turning out.

The wiring is done through a hole in the center of the table and cleverly hidden by low bowls with tubes running through the center, from which rise and spread the electroliers.

In one design, a bowl of exquisite carved Italian marble is supported by six cupids and from the center spring the gold-plated electroliers in a spray of three, showing narcissi lights. This bowl may be filled with fruits according to the English fashion or, to meet supposed to be the remains of victims the American taste, pink roses are preferred.

Another centerpiece has narcissi blooms at the base as well as on the upper electroliers, and cupids are posed reaching from the lower row of lights to the upper.

Elaboration in Gowns. Modes of the moment seem as fussy as ever, and nearly all of them appertain to one or other of the Louis periods. There is simplicity in effect, but in reality how different it all is! Gaugings and puffings and festooned flounces, to say nothing of the flat bouillounees now in vogue, spell endless handwork, and it is really true that dressmaking just now is pelther more nor less than fine needlework. dry season comfortably sealed up More especially is this the case with mousseline and taffetas frocks-the required lightness and daintiness of ef- these cases the fast must accordingly fect can only be produced by hand be prolonged and of a severe type. stitching, and as the newest skirts are guiltless of lining it goes without saying that the very finest needlework is alone admissable. Taffeta is more and more in evidence, and its most serious rival is glace silk, softly

Parisian Creation.

ruched with chiffen.

One of the pretty American women in Paris recently appeared at a re. ment upon it. ception gowned in a dress of black Chantilly, beautifully made over a lustrous satin foundation. The hat was a great wide-spreading black Thomas, lace picture hat and she wore long, Charles, Henry, Alice, Ann, Joseph black gloves. The note of color was June, Ellen, Emily, Annie Frederick found in a beautiful turquoise blue Margaret, Emma, Robert, Arthur, Al sash, in a great, long, blue ostrich fred, Edward, these, in the order give plume and in a handsome turquoise en, are the most popular Christian brooch at the throat. The costume names. was by all odds the most attractive in the room.

Kimono Dressing Sacque.

No other form of dressing sacque is quite so comfortable and satisfactory as the kimono. This one is peculiarly attractive and is made of light weight wash flannel with bands of wash silk in plain color. As shown, the sleeves are pointed, but round ones can be substituted whenever preferred. Again, the yoke can match the band in place of the kimono when that combination is liked. In addition to the light weight wools Oriental cot-



ton crepes and all washable materials are eminently appropriate and, in place of the bands being plain and the material figured, the material can be plain and the bands of any pretty figured silk or ribbon that may be chosen.

The kimono consists of full fronts and back which are joined to the yoke and is finished with a collar and band cut in one piece. The sleeves are in one piece each and slightly full at the

shoulders. The quantity of material required in the medium size is 4% yards 21 inches wide, 4 yards 27 inches wide, fine serge or some thin cravenetted or 31/2 yards 32 inches wide; with 13/2

British Army Conquests.

"Ours is the only army," says the London Telegraph, "which has, with the occasional assistance of the marines, fought in all the five continents from the Rhine to the Crimea, from Syria to Pakin, from Hudson bay to Patagonia, from Egypt to the Cape, and in the Australian seas from New Guinea to New Zealand. But the ascent of the Himalayas and the march to Lhassa surpass, in purely picturesque fascination, everything in British military annals."

The Old Stair Carpet.

Old stair carpet can be turned to good account as follows: First shake it well and cut away the bad parts and with the best of it make pads for doubling short lengths and tacking them at the edge of each step where the tread comes before laying the new carpet. This will make a new carpet wear twice as long and also make it very soft to walk upon, says the Brooklyn Times.

Invention of Panama Indians. We should never have had the Panama hat but for the quick-fingered Indians of the Isthmus of Panama. Even to-day their secret process for seasoning the grass blades used in weaving these hats remains unrivaled. Basketmakers of the same region make baskets which will hold water without leaking-another invention which is quite beyond us.

Many Buried in One Grave.

While making excavations for the enlargement of a church at Rogiett, Monmouthshire, Eng., the other day, about a hundred skeletons were discovered. The bodies had apparently been buried in one grave. They are of the plague, or of men who fell in a border raid. The skeletons have been reinterred.

The Gypsy in Europe.

Europe is the principal home of the gypsies. For centuries they have passed along the roads of the countries upon that continent in their rolling houses, calling themselves in their pride of race simply and superbly Roma, meaning the men. In France they are called Romanichels, but chiefly Bohemians.

Sleep Through the Winter.

Bats generally remain torpid throughout the winter months; while the African lung fish passes the whole of the within a nest formed by the caked and dried mud of the river bed. In

Indian Cotton Weavers.

Cotton weaving has done more for Great Britain within the last century than any other one industry. The Indians of Central and South America have for centuries past used a loom so elaborate that ours is, comparatively speaking, but a slight improve-

Most Popular Names.

George

William, Mary, John, Elizabeth

Latest from Billville. Following is the latest news from

Billville: "The millponds have been gay decorated, the alligators have take to the woods, and all you have to c is to jump in and imagine you're c the seashore!"-Atlanta Constitution

English Army Maneuvers. Army maneuvers were recently he

in the southern part of England "u der actual war conditions," and scout of the invading army called the Windsor postoffice to borrow map of the district for his comman ing officer.

Comforting Philosophy.

The joy of to-day may be ashes morrow, but the humiliation of morrow will surely be the jest of t day after. Always, in some way, t future justifies the past.-Ina Brevo Roberts in September Lippincott's.

Use for Spurious Coins. Spurious coins are legally made

China. They are used to put in t coffins of the dead, and the super tion prevails that they make the C happy.

Gaelic Hockey.

"Camogaidheact" is the name of game, somewhat like hockey, inven for the women of the Gaelic league Ireland.

Leather Trunks Long Used. Leather trunks for transpor clothes were made and sold in Re as early as the time of Julius Cae

London Honor to John Harvard American residents of London ose to honor the memory of He ward, founder of the famous sachusetts college, by a window in Savior's church, Southwark, where

Products of Dogfish.

was born.

The Canadian government has cided to construct three factorie Nova Scotia for the manufactur give and other material from de -all that the dogash is good for